

Top Secret

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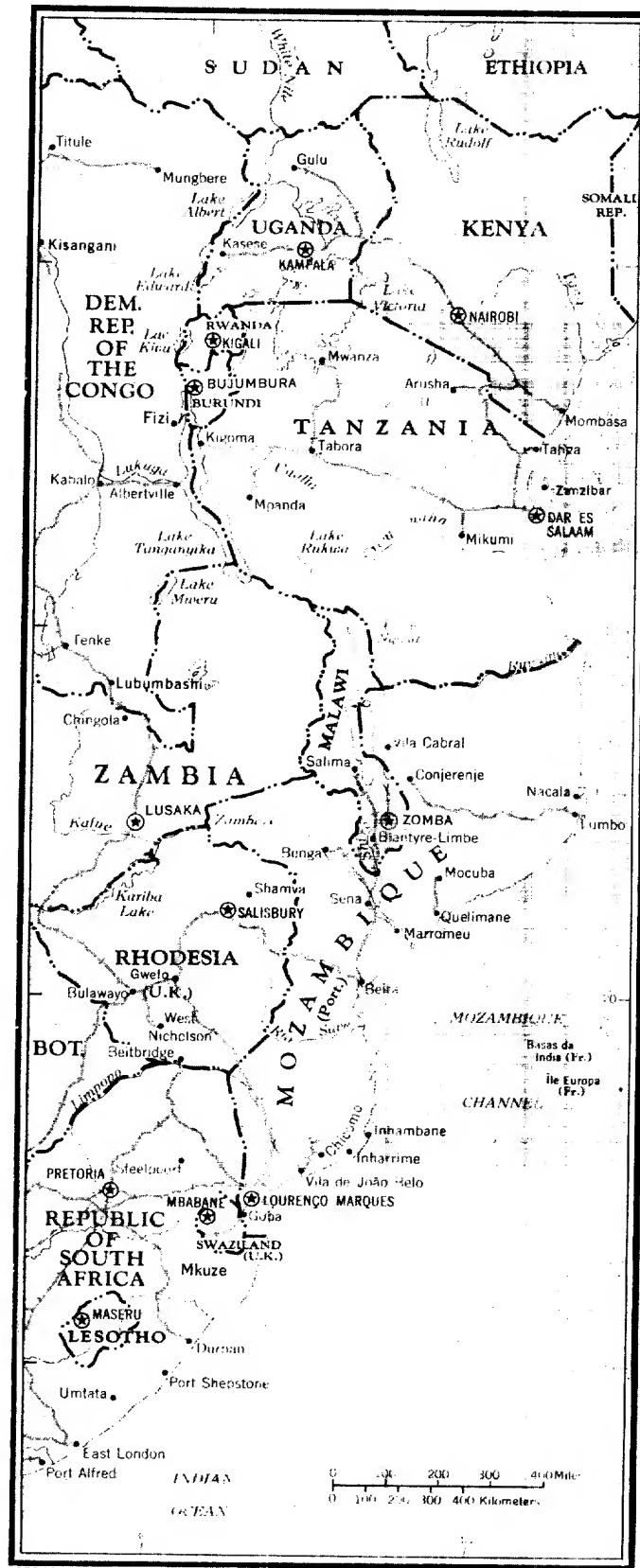
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Tanzania: Fear of Portuguese retaliation for Tanzania's support of Mozambique insurgents is causing Dar es Salaam to seek additional Communist military aid.



the 29 November explosion of land mines on a Tanzanian road just north of the Mozambique border, publicly attributed to the Portuguese by the Tanzanian Government.

There is no evidence to substantiate Dar es Salaam's claim that Portuguese military personnel were involved, but the mines may have been laid by local tribesmen

For over two years the use of Tanzanian sanctuaries has enabled the Mozambique Liberation Front (FRELIMO) to create a military no man's land in remote bush areas of northern Mozambique, and the Tanzanian Government is becoming increasingly jumpy about the possibility of retaliatory attacks against FRELIMO base camps inside Tanzania.

For several months the Tanzanian Army has been preparing defensive positions along the frontier and moving ammunition to the area. New access roads are planned and three fortified settlements are being established under a Chinese Communist cash grant. The Chinese are expected to give military training to the villagers and are already active in the FRELIMO training camps. A Chinese shipment last month included arms for FRELIMO and anti-aircraft guns for Tanzania.

(Map)

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Yugoslavia: The Slovenian cabinet's resignation yesterday is unprecedented in a Communist country and is a dramatic step in Yugoslavia's move toward parliamentary democracy.

The Slovenian executive council in Ljubljana, one of Yugoslavia's six republic cabinets, resigned rather than accept the republic assembly's refusal to adopt a health insurance bill the council had passed. The Yugoslav Constitution of 1963 implicitly allows such action by a republic as well as by the federal government, but the actual resort to this prerogative will probably jolt party and government leaders in Belgrade because of its far-reaching implications.

Should the Slovenian precedent be followed by other republics and eventually by the federal government, as seems likely, the parliament could gain a significant voice in directing the Yugoslav system. With the party still in some disarray after the removal last summer of Tito's heir-apparent Rankovic and its subsequent reorganization, Yugoslav leaders may tend more and more to push their views through parliamentary rather than party channels.

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Indonesia: Testimony of former air force chief Omar Dani, on trial for complicity in the murders of six top army generals in October 1965, demonstrates that President Sukarno approved the antiarmy move and probably knew of it in advance.

Dani stated that he told Sukarno that General Supardjo, a Communist army officer, was planning to take action against the generals and received the impression that the President already knew about it. When Sukarno was briefed at Halim Air Force Base on the morning of 1 October on the events of the previous night, he replied--according to Dani--"Good, this is clearly a revolutionary incident. In a great revolution bloody events occur." Although Sukarno then stated that he wanted no further bloodshed, he patted Supardjo on the back and later approved Dani's order-of-the-day--released that afternoon--which supported the so-called coup.

The army regards Dani's trial as a major step in reducing Sukarno's prestige by definitively implicating him. Unlike their procedure in previous trials related to the coup, the chief judge and the prosecuting officers--obviously under orders--have pressed hard to obtain information on Sukarno's conversation and activities on 1 October. Testimony is being broadcast verbatim to a nationwide audience. Some 44 prosecution witnesses are scheduled to testify, and it is assumed that they will generally corroborate Dani's story.

The army's strong approach to the Dani trial should help relieve the concern of many of the army's civilian supporters that General Suharto, who heads both the army and the government, is moving too slowly against Sukarno. [REDACTED]

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Argentina: President Ongania's choice of General Julio Alsogaray to replace General Pistarini as army commander may give the military an opportunity to seek a larger voice in government policy.

Ongania appointed Alsogaray on 5 December when Pistarini requested retirement after a disagreement with Ongania over the retirement of one of Pistarini's corps commanders. [REDACTED]

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Alsogaray is an ambitious officer who participated in the plotting that brought Ongania to power in June. His earlier criticism of the government for not moving more rapidly to institute reforms has been tempered recently, and he reportedly said in November that he was in "complete agreement" with Ongania.

Ongania's acceptance of Pistarini's retirement request followed an earlier meeting in which the army commander gave the President comments of military leaders on the government's economic and labor policies. [REDACTED]

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According to press reports, Ongania removed some of the harsher provisions of the plan before signing the reorganization decree on 2 December. [REDACTED]

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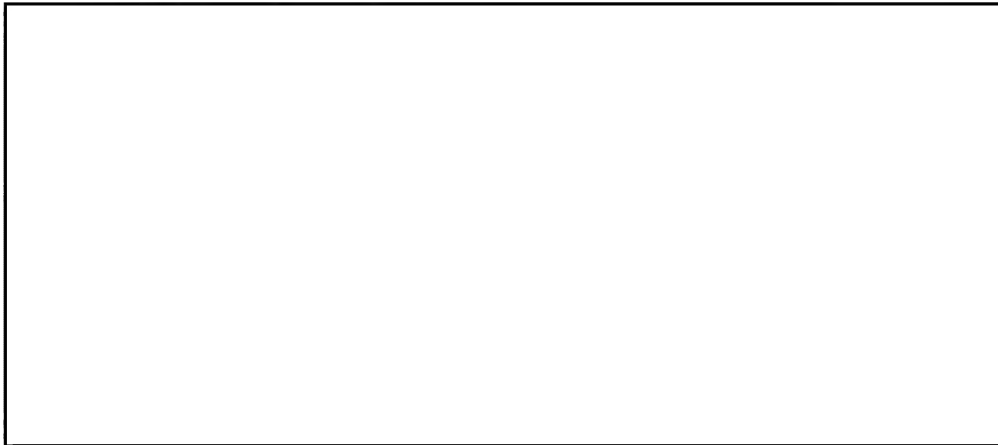
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NOTES

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Sudan: A 6 December cabinet shuffle may have postponed an open break between factions within the Ummah Party, largest of the two in the coalition government. Prime Minister Sadiq al-Mahdi, liberal president of the party, has conceded two posts to supporters of his uncle and principal rival. The uncle, Imam al-Hadi al-Mahdi, is leader of the Ansar sect, which comprises the party's principal support. Despite this maneuver, the struggle for power between the two will continue to threaten the unity and stability of Sudan's moderate government.

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